



Pest Detection and Management Programs

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Weekly Notice, June 10, 2004

This "Weekly Notice" is prepared by the Pest Detection and Management Programs (PDMP) to communicate recent important events. These notices and other more detailed program information can be found at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/reports/>

Cirtothrips Dorsalis Technical Information Working Group Report:

A technical meeting to discuss what's known about Scirtothrips dorsalis, a thrips with a wide host range threatening the US from the Caribbean, was held the last week of May in Miami, FL. The meeting was organized by Dale Meyerdirk, PDMP, and Matt Ciomperlik, CPHST and brought together scientists with experience in thrips detection, Identification, trapping, commodity treatment, control, and management practices.

Presentations were given and participation came from representatives of PDMP Planning staff, the PPQ Plant Inspection Station at Miami, CPHST, the ARS labs, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, and the Universities of Florida and Minnesota. Dale anticipates a future meeting to discuss potential mitigations and research needs identified for preparedness, especially involving offshore opportunities for cooperation.

Submitted by Joel Floyd, PDMP.

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SOD Report:

Trace forward surveys continue and the national survey is underway as PPQ determines the distribution of *Phytophthora ramorum*. The number of confirmed positive locations from the trace forward, national, and other surveys is 134 in 18 states.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture has issued an emergency 90-day quarantine of all nurseries and compost production facilities in Columbia County due to the discovery of *Phytophthora ramorum*. Sampling and testing by ODA has confirmed the presence of *P. ramorum* in plants and potting media at a Columbia County nursery. In addition, infected plants were found just outside the perimeter of the nursery. An ODA press

release announcing the order can be viewed at:

<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/news/040604sod.shtml>.

PPQ is considering an appropriate response to the recent discoveries of *P. ramorum* in commercial nurseries not associated with Monrovia Azusa in the states of Oregon and Washington; options include extending the Federal emergency order applied to CA. PPQ has held several discussions with the affected states and stakeholders.

PPQ has confirmed that a camellia reportedly purchased from a nursery in Augusta, Georgia and planted in a residential garden in Aiken, South Carolina was infected with *P. ramorum*.

As of June 9, *P. ramorum* has been confirmed in plants traced forward from the initially positive Los Angeles County wholesaler remains at 113 locations in 16 states. The numbers of nurseries or garden centers with positive trace forward samples from the wholesaler by state are California (40), Alabama (3), Arkansas (1), Florida (6), Washington (11), Oregon (9), Texas (9), Colorado (1), Georgia (13), Louisiana (5), Maryland (1), North Carolina (9), New Mexico (1), Tennessee (2), and Virginia (1). The Federal confirmed nursery protocol was implemented at infested facilities. One residential sample from South Carolina linked to Monrovia has been found positive.

To date, 17 Eastern Region states have begun or completed National Survey activities (AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MD, MS, NJ, NC, NY, RI, SC, TN, VA, and WV). The states have inspected 218 nurseries and collected 4,983 samples. MD and NJ had one positive facility each. The WR reports that 11 states have begun or completed National Survey activities (AZ, AR, CA, ID, IA, LA, MO, OK, OR, TX, and WA). These states have inspected 317 nurseries and have collected 14,393 samples; 14 facilities in two states, CA and WA, have tested positive.

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